

Response to Amendment

Following indication of allowable subject matter for some dependent claims in the first Office action, an amendment was filed on June 30, 2008, in which the independent claim was amended to include some structure from the allowable dependent claims. The amended independent claim was still not in a condition for allowance, and so a telephone interview was initiated and examiner's amendment was agreed upon to put the case in condition for allowance.

Examiner's Amendment

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Phillipe Signore on 7/23/08 and 7/25/08.

The application has been amended as follows:

- a.** In claim 5, line 5, the phrase "can be" has been changed to --are--.
- b.** In claim 4, line 10, the phrase --wherein said two separable parts of the leading edge are assembled separably to the main part of the nacelle through screws passing through the leak tight wall.-- has been inserted after "wall."
- c.** In claim 5, lines 1-4, the phrase "wherein said two separable parts of the leading edge are assembled separably to the main part of the nacelle through screws

passing through the leak tight wall” has been replaced with the phrase --said screws are--.

- d. In claim 10, line 1, the numeral “9” has been changed to --4--.
- e. Claim 9 has been cancelled.

Examiner’s Statement of Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner’s statement of reasons for allowance: the applicant’s invention is an air intake for a turboprop engine, where the forward annular portion of the air intake comprises two separable semi-circular pieces that are connected to each other by bolts and are connected to the main nacelle by screws.

The air intake is allowable because the prior art of record failed to teach two separable parts of an air intake leading edge that extend over complimentary parts of a circumference and are attached to the main part of the nacelle by screws passing through a leak tight wall of the nacelle.

Cousin 6,129,509 teaches an air intake leading edge that is attached to the nacelle. Sherry 5,941,061 teaches an annular leading edge that comprises two separable pieces. Although the references combined teach an annular leading edge that is separable into two pieces, but it would not have been obvious to attach the separable pieces to each other and the nacelle in the manner disclosed without using impermissible hindsight.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Kreiner whose telephone number is (571)270-5379. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 7:30am-5:00pm (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kimberly D. Nguyen can be reached on (571)272-2402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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